

WILSON FORCES TO URGE BIGGER NAVAL PROGRAM

Cabinet Believes House Appropriation Bill Is Far Too Inadequate.

FOR SIX CAPITAL SHIPS

Administration Would Increase Enlisted Personnel from 13,500 to 20,000.

WILL ASK \$100,000,000 MORE

Total Appropriation of \$250,000,000 to Be Urged—Big Increase to Be Pushed at This Session.

The administration has decided on a complete change in its naval policy and will shortly make a demand on Congress for a big increase in the construction program to be authorized at this session. President Wilson and the Cabinet consider that the naval appropriation bill which will be reported to the House by the Naval Affairs Committee on Saturday is inadequate. Accordingly, they will seek to have the measure amended in the Senate to provide:

First—Six new capital ships instead of four. These will be apportioned as follows: Dreadnoughts, 2; battle cruisers, 4.

Second—An increase in the enlisted personnel of the navy of 20,000 instead of 13,500.

Third—Authorization for the President to call out 10,000 additional men in time of emergency.

Fourth—A naval appropriation of \$250,000,000 instead of approximately \$225,000,000.

The appropriation last year was \$150,000,000. It was declared yesterday that the administration is willing to assume full responsibility for the increase of \$100,000,000.

The administration announced its national defense program for the navy last October. It comprised a five-year building scheme which called for a total of ten capital ships in the five years. For the first year only two dreadnoughts, and two battle cruisers were asked and for the second year two dreadnoughts and no battle cruisers.

For Six Capital Ships.

It is now proposed to authorize the first year the six capital ships originally called for in two years, and it is expected the total of ten will be far exceeded before the five-year period expires. It was considered improbable yesterday that Congress will adhere to the five-year building scheme, but will prefer to legislate for one year at a time.

It was also the purpose of the administration originally not to provide full crews for ships in reserve. It is proposed now to have no vessels in reserve, but to keep all in full commission.

The increase of 13,500 enlisted men to be authorized by the House bill would provide 10 per cent crews for every naval vessel built and building except those for the reserve, and a 50 per cent quota for the latter. The policy had been to keep 25 per cent of a full crew on each vessel in reserve, but Secretary of the Navy Daniels increased this to 40 per cent.

An increase of 20,000 would provide 74,000 men net for the navy. The present authorization by law is 52,000, but the Navy Department is not obliged to include in this number prisoners, etc. The additional 10,000 men which the President would be authorized to call out would give the navy a total fighting force of 84,000 blue-jackets.

Redfield Scored By Manufacturers

"Thrust at the Schoolmaster Who Knows It All," Also Enlivens Convention.

(By the Sun News Service.) Philadelphia, May 17.—A strong attack upon Secretary of Commerce Redfield for his methods of investigating the hosiery and knit goods industry and his treatment of the manufacturers and a denunciation of the child labor law, with a thrust at "the schoolmaster who knows it all," today disturbed the serenity of the business session of the convention of the National Association of Hosiery and Underwear Manufacturers.

Charles E. Lelpe, former president of the association and head of the Reading Knitting Mills, Reading, Pa., said that during his recent investigation of the knit goods industry, Secretary Redfield had acted as if he believed the manufacturers wanted 100 per cent profit, in addition to a protective tariff, and that their chief aim was to become millionaires overnight or at least once a year.

Aged Editor Dies.

Butler, Pa., May 17.—Capt. P. Sanford Bancroft, aged 86 years, for twenty-seven years associate editor of the Butler County Record, died here today. Until he was stricken he had been actively engaged in newspaper work.

U. S. to Denounce Allies' Sea Warfare Should Austria Prove "Sub" Murder Charges

The Austro-Hungarian note to neutral nations charging the French and Italian governments with "intentional murder" in their submarine operations is awaited with the greatest interest and anxiety by the State Department.

According to dispatches from Vienna, the note alleges that enemy submarines destroyed without warning the hospital ship *Electra* and the peaceable merchant ship *Dubrovnik*, on which were women and children, and that torpedoes were launched without warning at two other peaceable vessels, the *Daniel-Erno*, and the *Zagreb*.

Guilt, If True, Equals Germany's.

"The State Department is prepared to meet the issue on its merits. If the proof is sufficient the Department will be compelled to lodge a vigorous protest with the allied governments charged with the offenses, and inquiries will be made concerning the instructions issued to their submarine commanders.

The first inquiries of the State Department, it was said, would be whether Americans were aboard the vessels attacked and if such attacks were authorized by the French and Italian governments.

The State Department did not attempt to conceal that if it should develop that allied naval commanders had been guilty of the practices for which the United States threatened to sever diplomatic relations with Germany, the situation confronting the United States would be practically the same as in the case of Germany.

Great Britain and France repeatedly have charged Germany with violating the rules of naval warfare, and the United States has accepted as valid evidence statements and exhibits furnished against Germany by the allied governments. It was said at the State Department yesterday that for this reason it would be impossible to "pass by the Austro-Hungarian note without taking action upon it.

It was said, however, that the State Department would not take any action until it had received the note from the Austro-Hungarian government.

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